

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

The Cloud Sharps of the Country Pulled Over the Congressional Coals.

The Pennsylvania Dutchman Does the "Muniments of War" and Tackles Hazen.

Waile Logan Signals the Chief Log-Roller to Keep Off His Toss.

A Decidedly Glimpy Prospect For Dorsey and His Coparties.

The House Committee Vigorously Defends the Famous Harbor Bill.

And Impesh the Action of the President and Secretary of War.

A Chapter From the Census-Doing of Congress and Other Matters.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Special Dispatches to This Day.

INDICATIONS OF A STORM.

WASHINGTON, February 21.—The affairs of the signal service bureau were under discussion in both houses of congress to-day. In the senate, Logan, while disclaiming any hostility to the signal corps, said he had been attacked in newspaper articles written in the signal service office and paid for with government money. This he could prove. In the house Mr. Belzhoover attacked the administration of the signal bureau under Hazen.

THE TARIFF BILL.

As it passed the senate has been transmitted to the house, placed on the speaker's table and ordered printed.

COLLECTION DISTRICTS.

The sub-committee of the senate committee on appropriations were engaged to-day upon the legislation appropriation bill. Commissioner Ramm was before them opposing the proposition incorporated in the bill by the house to reduce the number of internal revenue districts from 126 to 82. The commissioner stated that the proposed consolidation would not lessen the expenses of collecting the revenue, but would very seriously disarrange the machinery of the service, which now was working very satisfactorily.

General Badger was nominated for collector of customs at New Orleans.

CONTENDED SEATS.

The elections committed practically decided, since it will be impossible to consider all the contested elections this session, that they be allowed to go over for action by the Forty-eighth congress.

THE CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATION BILL.

IT LOOKS DARK ENOUGH for the star route defendants just now, though the impression prevails that while the jury in the case will bring in a verdict of guilty, the court in banc, to which the case will be appealed, will set aside the verdict on some of the numerous exceptions taken, and the swindlers will thus escape. Others, again, say it is more likely they will avoid the penalty by forfeiting their bail and falling into Mexico.

THE SAN FRANCISCO POSTOFFICE.

Gen. Rosecrans said to-night there was still a chance to get the San Francisco postoffice bill through this session, though it got smaller and smaller each day. Senator Miller will have it put on the sundry civil bill, when it is considered in the senate as an amendment. If he succeeds, Rosecrans says he is confident the house will concur in it.

MINERAL PRODUCTION.

The second edition of the compendium of the census will be published in a few days. From advance sheets it appears that the total production of gold for the year was \$33,609,663, and of silver \$47,170,957. The report states in addition to the returns received directly from the mines, there are several minor points to be included in the total yield. While it is impossible to state the actual amount absorbed with any degree of precision, a careful estimate would place the value of gold nuggets and ore annually added to the cabinets of collections at not less than \$150,000, and that of silver at about \$50,000. This in view of the great number of mineral collection maintained throughout the mining territory is certainly not an overestimate. There is quite an extensive manufacture of gold quartz into jewelry and souvenirs, particularly in San Francisco. The value of metal so absorbed probably does not fall short of \$50,000 annually. In 1870 the United States mining commissioner estimated the amount of gold hoarded as specimens or worked up by local jewelers at \$40,000. The same authority at that period estimated the annual loss of gold dust in handling as currency at \$100,000, but the practice of using dust for money has almost disappeared. The amount so lost now is very small. Another indefinite quantity is the value of precious metal lost in melting, in assay, grains, etc. The study of the relation of the production to population develops some curious figures, ranging from an average of 1.01 per capita in Nevada, the interesting series indicating with great precision to what extent mining is a factor of wealth in the several localities. The product per square mile

varies from 1 cent in the case of Alaska to \$185.20 in Colorado, the intermediate averages being in other standard of developed mineral resources, so far as the precious metals are concerned, from a different point of view, roughly corresponding to that of the relation of production to population. The leading mining states are Colorado, California, Nevada, followed by the territories of Utah, Montana, Dakota, Arizona and Idaho, in the order named. The proportionate amounts of gold and of silver furnished by each vary greatly. Thus while Colorado produces 40 per cent of all the silver in the United States, she yields but 8 per cent of the gold. California, on the other hand, is the source of over half of the gold yield, less than 3 per cent of the silver, and a similar divergence is observed in other portions of the mining region, the two precious metals occurring side by side, but often in widely disproportionate quantities.

A DEFENSE OF THE HARBOR BILL.

Mr. Page, on behalf of the committee on commerce, submitted a voluminous report to accompany the river harbor bill, which they recommend. The committee advert to the last bill of this character. They say the president, exercising his constitutional prerogative, returned the bill to the house without his approval. Congress, exercising its constitutional right, by a two-thirds majority of each house, passed the bill, notwithstanding the objection by the president, and the bill became a law. Republican newspapers in great railroad centers raised a hue and cry against the act and against those by whose votes it passed, bolstering the attack with every possible form of misrepresentation and personal abuse in the endeavor to blind the people to their own best interests. At the re-assembling of congress, the president in his annual message took occasion again to advert to the appropriations for rivers and harbors, evidently misled by the deceptive official balance sheet and crossed the hope that no similar measure will be deemed necessary during the present congress. As if in harmony with this intimation the secretary war disregarded in part several provisions of the law. He also failed to furnish the secretary of the treasury and chief engineer's estimates of appropriations required for the service during the year ending June 30, 1884, as requested to be transmitted to congress. This left your committee in the dark. Hence they reported a resolution, which was adopted by the house, calling upon the secretary of war for reports of estimates of the engineer's department aforesaid, and certain other information touching on appropriations and expenditures for rivers and harbors to which the secretary of war returned answer, January 4, 1883. Upon receiving reports of estimates of the engineers your committee proceeded to examine the same, found a number of river and harbor works would not have a dollar left at the expiration of the present fiscal year, that failure on the part of congress to make appropriations for the coming fiscal year ending June 30, 1884, would inevitably result in great loss to the government, in the matter of "plant," filling up channels and otherwise, and that such failure would be equivalent to throwing away the vast sums already expended in the interest of commerce and rendering worthless many uncompleted improvements, as well as subjecting many completed works to great damage. Notwithstanding therefore the diverse views of the president, your committee are impelled to present to the house a river and harbor bill, as to not otherwise would be a palpable serious neglect of their duty to the house and to the nation. Your committee have endeavored relationally to frame such a bill only as is justified in all respects by the absolute interests of a general commerce, the ease and security of existing navigation, and the rigid requirements of public opinion.

THE REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF WAR.

The report goes on to criticize the action of the president and secretary of war in the following language: "As to the exercise of the veto power on the last river and harbor bill, while it is undeniable that under the constitution the president has the right to veto any bill passed by congress, yet it is equally undeniable that he should never lightly or unnecessarily exercise that right in regard to river and harbor appropriations. The president, through the secretary of war, either has power to withhold from expenditure any one or all of them, or he has not the power to withhold such expenditure. If the president has not power to withhold, then he has failed in the obligation to carry out the law and overstepped the bounds prescribed by the constitution. If he has power to withhold, then veto was quite unnecessary. The letter from the secretary of war gives a list of thirty-one appropriations in the act of 1882, which the secretary says have been temporarily withheld by him at the suggestion of the president. The suggestion of power to temporarily withhold carries with it the implication of power to permanently withhold, but whether it is the duty of the executive simply to execute the law, except in cases where it is absolutely impracticable or palpably unconstitutional, and in that event to report to congress, is a matter upon which this committee is not dutifully bound at this time to express an opinion." The committee goes into a very lengthy argument in defense of the various items appropriated by the bill, and says in conclusion: "The committee on commerce carefully considered the objections made by the secretary of war, sent by him to the house as his answer to the house resolution of inquiry, and compared the statement as given by the secretary under each head, with the official statements of the engineer corps, communicated to congress at the beginning of the second session of the Forty-seventh congress, which were printed and distributed to the members of the committee, and this committee, before said resolutions were adopted by the house

of representatives, found that very many objections then made are at variance with the statements of the engineers themselves, and conclusively show that new and very extended examination, which the secretary of war was compelled to make, because of his wish to give satisfactory answers to the inquiries of the house, has not resulted in such answers as can be satisfactory to the house, but are of a character to confuse and mislead both the house and the country."

CONGRESSIONAL.

Special Dispatch to This Day.

SENATE PROCEEDINGS.

WASHINGTON, February 21.—Senator Van Wyck offered a resolution calling on the president for information touching the alleged joint agreement between the ministers of the United States, Great Britain, France and Italy, at Lima, Peru, to make a joint effort to bring about a peace between Chile and Peru, and whether the minister of the United States has been instructed to invite or accept the mediation of the European powers in a purely American question. Laid on the table.

HOUSE PROCEEDINGS.

The senate then went into executive session. When the doors reopened the senate proceeded to the consideration of the army appropriation bill. The first important amendment reported by the committee on military affairs was the insertion of a paragraph appropriating \$143,000 for civilian clerks for adjutant general's department and for headquarters of military divisions and departments. Adopted. The next amendment was to increase the number of aide de camp for generals from twenty to thirty-seven, striking out the provision limiting the number and making provision as to the rank and pay and to insert the following: "Provided that no officer shall remain absent from his regiment on duty at Washington City for a longer period than three years at any one time, but this provision shall not apply to officers on the staff of the commanding general of the army nor to officers in charge of the publication of records of the war of the rebellion or detailed to work on the Washington monument."

THE SIGNAL SERVICE.

The fact that the exception did not apply to officers of the signal service corps gave rise to discussion. Senator Maxey and others argued that the officers should not be removed from Washington after three years' service. Senator Logan, who has charge of the bill, denied that he was hostile to that corps, and contended that the military duties performed by it should be learned by all army officers. He wished all army officers to have an opportunity of learning these duties, and proposed to offer an amendment that of the twelve signal service officers now in Washington four shall be sent back to the regiments in 1883, four in 1884 and four in 1885. He alluded to the fact that he had been attacked in editorial articles all over the country as being hostile to the signal service corps. He said the signal service corps was a new thing in his letter, with the information that they had been written in the signal service office, and paid for out of government money. He could demonstrate the truth of that statement.

THE AMENDMENT.

The amendment was excised on a point of order.

THE QUESTION.

The question was then taken on striking out the clause limiting the number of aide de camp, providing that they shall not have any additional rank or pay, and it was struck out. The next amendment was to the clause for 50 contract surgeons, to strike out 50 and insert "not exceeding 80." Other amendment, to strike out provisions requiring discharging officers to give bonds and forbidding the filling of future vacancies in the pay corps, were ruled out of order. The amendment to strike out the provision limiting pay for the transportation of troops to 50 per cent of the usual charges was also ruled out of order.

ON MOTION OF SENATOR PLUMB.

An amendment was adopted limiting the amounts to be expended for compensation of civilian employees of the several departments of the army. The bill was then reported to the senate and the amendments made to the committee of the whole agreed to, and the bill passed.

THE FORTIFICATION APPROPRIATION BILL.

was called up by Senator Hale and explained by Senator Dawes. The amendments reported by the committee were agreed to and the bill passed.

THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE.

on the bill granted the right of way to the Elkhorn railroad company through the Nebraska military reservation, Nebraska, was agreed to.

SENATOR EDWARDS CALLED UP.

the joint resolution to provide for the termination of the articles of the treaty of Washington to fisheries.

SENATOR WINDOM ASKED EDWARDS.

whether the section of the joint resolution repealing the act to carry into effect the provision of the treaty relating to fisheries would repeal the law under which goods are permitted to be transported in bond through American territory.

SENATOR EDWARDS SAID TO AVOID.

all possible misconception on this point he would move to limit the application of this section of the resolution by inserting the words "so far as it relates to articles of said treaty so to be terminated." This amendment was agreed to. The joint resolution then passed.

SENATOR EDWARDS MOVED TO TAKE UP.

the Utah bill.

SENATOR HOAR MOVED TO STRIKE OUT.

the seventh section, which provides it shall not be lawful for any female to vote at any election hereafter held in territory of Utah for any public purpose whatever.

SENATOR EDWARDS DEFENDED THE PROVISION.

The votes of Mormon women were controlled by the men who desired to keep up the political power of the Mormon church. He thought the importance of breaking up the Mormon system would fully justify the suspension of female voting in Utah

without any reference to the general question of woman suffrage.

SENATOR HOAR SAID MR. EDWARDS.

proposed to deprive all the women of Utah the right of suffrage because he believed a certain class of women would not vote as he thought they might vote.

SENATOR EDWARDS SAID THE QUESTION.

of suffrage was a political question within the control of the political powers; that what Mr. Hoar had said about the opinions of Mormon women was entirely apart from this bill. If the real opinions of those women could find expression, he would wish to have them vote, because the very nature of every virtuous woman revolted against polygamy and all its influences. It would not be constitutional to undertake to disfranchise any man or woman on account of opinion but everybody except perhaps Judge Black could agree that in point of law congress could regulate in the District of Columbia or in any territory could confine it to property holders of \$100,000. Who desired to keep up the political power of the polygamous Mormon church? He thought the importance of breaking up the Mormon system would justify the suspension of female voting in Utah without any reference to the general question of woman suffrage.

SENATOR BLAIR MOVED TO AMEND.

the seventh section of the bill so as to make its provisions apply to "persons" instead of "females." The bill amendments were still pending when the senate adjourned.

HOUSE PROCEEDINGS.

In the house the senate amendments to the pension appropriation bill were concurred in.

CASWELL SUBMITTED A CONFERENCE REPORT.

on the postoffice appropriation bill stating the conference had been unable to agree. Caswell explained that the chief points of difference were the items appropriating \$185,000 for special mail facilities and relating to the compensation allowed to land grant railroads for mail transportation. A further conference was ordered.

PENDING MATTERS.

Being considered being that offered by Mr. McCook, under direction of the military committee, "that all lands reserved for military purposes (no longer desirable for such purposes) be placed under the control of the secretary of the interior, to be by him sold at public sale for cash, no subdivision to exceed 160 acres."

AMENDMENTS WERE ADDED.

providing that the land shall not be sold at less than \$1.25 per acre; also providing that any settlers who were in actual occupation of a portion of any reservation prior to the location of the reservation and continued such occupation at the present time, shall be entitled to locate on the land on which they live under the homestead laws. The amendment was adopted.

MR. BELZHOVER MOVED TO AMEND.

by striking out the clause authorizing the secretary of war to detail officers for service in the signal corps, exclusive of lieutenants in the signal corps, as authorized by law. In advocating this amendment Belzhoover made an attack upon the administration of the signal service under General Hazen. He believed this bureau was purely a civil institution, wholly unrelated to some civil department of the government; especially that it should be placed under charge of a head who had some scientific knowledge, some standing and reputation among popular scientists of the country. The speech which he had had printed some time ago in the Record had been delivered on the floor of the house. In order to avoid any misunderstanding he had formulated his statements in brief form, as follows:

FIRST.—THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SIGNAL SERVICE BUREAU UNDER H. W. HOWGATE WAS THE MOST CORRUPT, PRIGGATE AND DISHONEST WHICH EVER EXISTED IN THE ANNALS OF THE GOVERNMENT.

SECOND.—HOWGATE'S METHODS WERE CHARACTERIZED BY EMPLOYMENT OF THE WHOLE SIGNAL SERVICE FORCE FOR LOGGING TO INFLUENCE CONGRESS TO PASS LEGISLATION FOR THE BUREAU.

THIRD.—WHILE APPARENTLY EXPENDING THE FULL APPROPRIATION IN KEEPING UP THE EFFICIENCY OF THE SERVICE, HOWGATE WAS REALIZING HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS. THE AMOUNT OF HIS LARCONIES EXCEEDED \$600,000.

FOURTH.—WHILE THIS CORRUPT, FOLGOWATE WAS IN PROGRESS, HOWGATE WAS SURROUNDED BY A NUMBER OF EDUCATED, WELL PAID EMPLOYEES, WHO WERE EITHER MARVELLOUSLY STUPID OR CRIMINALLY CULPABLE.

FIFTH.—THAT NO INVESTIGATION OF ANY KIND HAD BEEN MADE TO ASCERTAIN THE CHARACTER OR EXTENT OF THESE FRAUDS, NOR HAD THE PERPETRATORS BEEN BROUGHT TO TRIAL. THERE WERE SOME REASONS FOR THIS WHICH SOME PERSONS AROUND THE SIGNAL BUREAU KNEW BETTER THAN ANYBODY ELSE.

SIXTH.—GENERAL HAZEN HAD NEVER FORGOTTEN HOWGATE'S TRIAL, BUT HAD LEFT EVERY EMPLOYEE OF HOWGATE'S IN CONTROL OF THE BUREAU.

AT THIS POINT MR. BELZHOVER ASKED.

leave to print some of Howgate's letters in the Record, but E. B. Taylor, (Ohio), objected.

MR. BELZHOVER CONTINUED.

Seventh.—Hazen not only failed to bring Howgate to justice, but adopted precisely the methods of Howgate in using employees of the bureau to influence congress through boards of trade and newspapers.

EIGHTH.—HAZEN HAD MADE FALSE PROMISES TO THE WAR DEPARTMENT TO SECURE DETAILS OF REGULAR OFFICERS TO BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MR. TAYLOR IN REPLY DEFENDED GENERAL HAZEN'S INTEGRITY.

He criticized Belzhoover's action in making an assault upon that officer in a speech which was not openly delivered, but was printed in the Record. That whole speech was founded on incorrect information. This morning the gentleman again made an assault on General Hazen, the burden of his speech being that the officer did not prosecute Howgate. What had he to do with that prosecution? It was an unjust charge, it was an unreasonable charge. It was without foundation, and like the whole of the tirade, it

was based on false information. The gentleman had charged General Hazen with being a general without a battle, a commander without a history. Had he known the slightest rudiments of his country's history he would have known General Hazen had been under fire as many times as any officer in the service. In connection with this charge, the gentleman said General Hazen straggled on the stage and wore monuments of war shorn of all that makes it honorable. He (Taylor) did not know what General Hazen wore if he wore the "muniments of war" he wore something no other gentleman did." Mr. Calhoun bore testimony to General Hazen's bravery during the war.

MR. BELZHOVER THEN WENT ON WITH HIS SPECIFICATIONS AND CHARGES.

Ninth.—That Hazen had been running up expenditures of the bureau to double what they were under Howgate.

Tenth.—That Hazen's petty frauds and peculations were more bold and infamous than Howgate's.

Eleventh.—That Hazen was found guilty of base and ignominious cowardice and the most disgraceful duplicity.

Twelfth.—That Hazen's management of the bureau had not only been prodigal and extravagant beyond parallel, but also without adequate results.

Mr. Converse denied the charges of Hazen's cowardice. He bore a musket ball in his body he received in honorable warfare, yet he was arrayed as cowardly a man who never saw a battle. What was the meaning of this? He could tell. It was the remnant of a quarrel that had started years ago, when a colonel came before an investigation committee and gave testimony that threw from one of the highest places in the United States, the man who occupies it. That quarrel had been continued from that hour to this, and Gen. Hazen had never seen a day of peace or rest since he gave his testimony. Spies had surrounded him and gone into his very office. Scavengers had been employed to go into his spittoons and waste baskets to pick up remnants of papers and examine them.

Mr. Taylor.—And this stuff printed here against Gen. Hazen is largely remnants which have been dragged out of his waste basket.

Mr. Belzhoover said the information on which he based his charges was derived largely from the record of evidence and asserted that the records of Hazen's court martial corroborated his charge of cowardice. As to the remarks of the gentlemen from Ohio (Converse), "Did the gentleman want to say that either he or Gen. Hancock, of Gen. Sherman, or the president, or the secretary of war, was in a conspiracy to break down a poor little brigadier general, Hazen, because he had brought on the Belknap trial?"

Mr. Converse.—"No, and they have never made such charges as the gentleman repeats. But I do believe that there have been on Hazen's track, using foul words to him in order to drive him into a fight and get an opportunity to kill him."

Mr. Butterworth earnestly defended General Hazen's character for honesty and bravery and suggested that the gentleman from Ohio (Converse) put himself in an unenviable light before the country in attacking that officer without formulating his charges and asking for an investigation.

Mr. Belzhoover stated he would have demanded an investigation but for the approaching adjournment of congress. The amendment was then lost.

ON MOTION OF MR. HISECK.

an amendment was adopted authorizing the secretary of war in his discretion to make further detail of officers for service on arctic sea expeditions.

Mr. Blackburn offered an amendment reducing the appropriation for geological survey from \$240,000 to \$222,000.

After discussion and pending action the committee rose and the house adjourned.

THE FLOODED DISTRICT.

CINCINNATI, February 21.—The river continues to decline at the rate of an inch an hour. It is now low enough to allow steamers to use the public landing. The inundated district is covered with water filled with hay men. There seems no ground for alarm from the accumulation of filth. The relief committee has kept the streets clean as fast as the water receded. Additions to the relief fund to-day amount to \$9,500, making a total of \$146,000.

St. Louis, February 21.—The country opposite Cairo on the Missouri river is submerged, and the people have either abandoned their homes or are living in the second stories. The town is also filled with ice, which has floated in from the river. The bottom lands on both sides of the Mississippi below Cairo are flooded. Great damage is being done to farm property.

HE WANTS IT LOOKED AFTER.

CHICAGO, February 21.—Judge Williamson in charging the grand jury impaneled in the criminal court for the February term drew special attention to the practice of carrying concealed weapons. It was their duty, he said, to indict all persons found carrying dangerous weapons. He carried on a habit of carrying a revolver, and a habit of carrying a revolver was a habit of carrying a revolver.

W. T. ALLEN & CO., WHOLESALE GROCERS,

assigned this morning, but the amount of liabilities and assets are not yet reported. The firm say that they expect to settle and continue business.

HUGE RAILROAD POOL.

NEW YORK, February 21.—The executive committee of the trunk lines and managers of the western roads formulated an agreement to-day pledging to maintain rates, refuse to accept through bills from connecting roads found guilty of cutting, and to discharge any employee making cut rates or giving rebate.

THE STATE CAPITOL.

Another Remarkably Exciting Day in the Legislature.

A Forged and Fraudulent Committee Report Circulated by the Otes Statesman.

The Senate Unanimously Repudiates and Denounces the Document.

A Brilliant and Successful Battle Waged by the Opponents of the Capitol Steel.

The Bribe-givers Crowd the Hall Well-Heeled With Lincoln Lucre.

ASTOUNDING TESTIMONY OF MONTGOMERY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

Closely Followed by the Fatal Collapse of His Memory of Men and Things.

The Senate Railroad Bill in the House—The Hall and Lobby Crowded With Monopolists.

Special Dispatch to This Day.

LINCOLN, February 21.—The senate consumed half the day discussing the Kearney Reform school appropriation.

In the committee of the whole the amount was finally reduced from \$70,000 to \$50,000, and thus recommended the bill for passage.

In the house the committee investigating the bribery charges on the capital appropriation had before them Carl Montgomery, of Omaha, who fully corroborated the charges as published by the Bee, concerning the member bribed with \$500.

He further testified that the leading business men of Lincoln contributed a large fund for conveying the appropriation. He declined giving the name of the member, although admitting he had himself shaken hands with him when the incident related by the Bee occurred and knew him. The committee will report to the house and ask for instructions. Montgomery also declined to divulge the name of the merchant, or rather leading man of the Lincoln, who made the original charge. He intimated that if the house insisted he would rather disclose the name of the member than the name of his friend. The senate committee is also investigating the bribery charges.

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THIS DAY.

GROUT'S GAMMON.

LINCOLN, February 21.—During the day a pamphlet purporting to be the report of the joint railroad committee and signed by Grout, of Otes county, as chairman, and George L. Brown as secretary of the senate, and the first assistant clerk of the house, has been circulated very extensively throughout this city. This fact came to the knowledge of the special railroad committee of the senate for the first time this afternoon when Senator Reynolds offered the following:

WHEREAS, A certain printed document has been laid upon the tables of the members of this senate which pretends and purports to be the report of the joint committee on railroads, and wherefore this document is not the report of said joint railroad committee, but as we believe it is an argument made and prepared by railroad authority and dictation, and under their supervision, and no part of the investigation that came under our knowledge, and as a joint report we brand it as a fraud. It is evidently intended to mislead the people, and does entirely misrepresent the whole senate portion of said committee, we therefore denounce it as a fraud and totally deny that we concur in any portion of it, and we respectfully ask as a question of privilege that this explanation and repudiation of this fraudulent report be placed upon the minutes of this senate.

(Signed) S. S. REYNOLDS, W. H. DECH, EZRA BROWN, Committee.

The resolution was unanimously adopted and ordered spread upon the records of the senate.

This action of the house special railroad committee was denounced by many of the senators as an outrage.

A committee of senators, Messrs. Sowers, Harrison and Dye, were appointed to investigate and find out who sent the copy to the printer, and place the responsibility where it belongs. George L. Brown, secretary of the senate, denies that he even signed the document.

There has been the most exciting day of the session. The struggle in the senate over

THE CAPITOL HILL.

attracted crowds of spectators to the floor and galleries, and the most splendid debate was carried on for nearly five hours. The most exhaustive speech against the bill was made by Dech, who created quite a sensation in asserting that testimony had been given before the investigating committee of the house that incriminated at least one member and shows corrupt means had been used in securing its passage.

Brown, of Douglas, and Mr. Shaue also made strong appeals to

the senators to withhold support from this bill both on account of the popular demand for economy and the bad name its passage would give this legislature. Brown of Lancaster, and Butler, were the leading champions of the bill and Schoenheit tried to ridicule the charge of bribery and corruption.

The opponents kept up the assaults and by numerous amendments and motions tired their supporters out and carried its consideration over till tomorrow.

In the house the battle raged from 9 a. m. to 7 p. m. over

THE SENATE RAILROAD BILL.

with but brief intermission and some excellent speeches were made pro and con. The railroad lobby on the floor and in the cloak rooms swarmed like fleas on a dog in dog days, and they kept up constant communication with members. Superabundant lawyers and attorneys distributed themselves in the seats on the floor, directing members when to rise or sit down as motions were made and amendments offered. This feature was not only disagreeable, but positively disgusting.

The house voted down nearly all amendments. The worst amendment adopted was to strike out three-cent passenger fare and substitute "four cents per mile." It is not probable the senate will accept this should the bill pass, which as yet is doubtful. The aggressive attitude of the Lancaster delegation on behalf of the railroads, and against all reasonable railroad legislation, has arrayed a number of senators against the capitol bill, and it is almost certain that the defeat of the senate railroad bill will kill the capitol bill.

Final discussion of the railroad bill is set for tomorrow morning.

It now looks as if the legislature would not adjourn before Saturday. The investigation into the corrupt operations of

THE CAPITOL RING.

created great consternation among them, but they all displayed lamentably poor memory and stupidity in testifying. They knew nothing about the fund raised here to procure the passage of the bill. No sooner had Montgomery put in an appearance than he was beset by the capitol lobby. They induced him to employ Harwood as his attorney. His memory also became confused, and while he corroborated the statement made by the Bee, both before the house and senate committees,

HE FAILED TO MATERIALIZE.

the parties that were prime factors of his story. He thought C. C. Burr was, to his present recollection